

DEPUTY CLERK'S CORNER
by Nadine C. Smith, Chair, Deputy Clerks Council

The membership campaign will be completed by the time you receive this *Journal*, but each of us should continue throughout the year to promote membership in our organization. Over the years FCCA has continued to grow in image and stature as a professional organization in which we can take great pride. There are many advantages to membership in a professional organization such as ours, including educational benefits and networking opportunities which enhance our job performance. There also is the benefit of a united voice in matters which affect our careers. This is a wonderful bargain for a modest membership fee. Please continue to point this out to your fellow employees who are not members of our organization.

Begin to make plans for the 1999 Annual Conference at the Eden Roc Hotel in Miami Beach, August 8-13. Scholarship funds are available from the Clerks Council, and DCC is operating a room share hotline for members who would like to share a room to minimize conference costs. You will find an FCCA Conference a good investment of professional time and money.

The first Deputy Clerk Profile appears in this issue of the *Journal*, together with guidelines for future nominations which can be submitted by any member of FCCA. There are many people employed as deputy clerks in the court system who make noteworthy contributions to their community and the court system, above and beyond the requirements of their job. This program will recognize those contributions.

To date, only one nomination has been received for the Ross Levy Memorial Award which is presented at the annual conference. This is the highest award a deputy clerk can receive for contributions to FCCA and the Deputy Clerks Council. We have many members who are deserving. Each of us should consider making a nomination prior to the May 15th deadline.

* * * *

What do you see in the future for DCC? David Stechmann, USDC, Eastern District of Louisiana, has agreed to chair a Long Range Planning Committee for DCC. David and his committee will be developing a questionnaire for distribution through the DCC network to solicit your views on matters on which the Council should focus its collective energy in the future. The committee will make recommendations to the Board based upon completed questionnaires. Please contact David at C-151, U.S. Courthouse, 500 Camp Street, New Orleans, LA 70130-3367, phone (504) 589-7690, FAX (504) 589-3199, with your views and opinions as to what should be included in the questionnaire. We are soliciting your opinions, and of greater importance, your commitment, to become involved.

My wish for each of you as we approach the Holidays is that you will be happy and healthy, and that you will have the opportunity to enjoy friends and family. Please make an effort to be sensitive to those who need our help in various ways during this season, and deal gently with all of your fellow human beings.

I am eager to talk with any of you about FCCA/DCC matters and your areas of concern. Please don't hesitate to contact me with your thoughts and suggestions. Phone: (502) 582-5157, Ext. 435. Fax: (502) 582-6301. E-mail: ~6CA-Cincinnati.